Further examples of synthetic cationic polymers useful in forming the tie layers of the present invention include:

- (i) a polyallylamine (PAH) homo- or copolymer, optionally comprising modifier units as described herein;
- (ii) a polyethyleneimine (PEI) as discussed above;
- (iii) a polyvinylamine homo- or copolymer, optionally comprising modifier units;
- (iv) a poly(vinylbenzyl-tri- C_1 - C_4 -alkylammonium salt), for example a poly(vinylbenzyl-tri-methyl ammoniumchloride);
- (v) a polymer of an aliphatic or araliphatic dihalide and an aliphatic N,N,N',N'-tetra-C₁-C₄-alkyl-alkylenediamine, for example a polymer of (a) propylene-1,3-dichloride or -dibromide or p-xylylene dichloride or dibromide and (b) N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-1,4-tetramethylene diamine;
- (vi) a poly(vinylpyridin) or poly(vinylpyridinium salt) homo- or copolymer;
- (vii) a poly (N,N-diallyl-N,N-di-C₁-C₄-alkyl-ammoniumhalide);
- (viii) a homo- or copolymer of a quaternized di- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-aminoethyl acrylate or methacrylate, for example a poly(2-hydroxy-3-methacryloylpropyltri- C_1 - C_2 -alkylammonium salt) homopolymer such as a poly(2-hydroxy-3-methacryloylpropyltri-methylammonium chloride), or a quaternized poly(2-dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate or a quaternized poly(vinylpyrrolidone-co-2-dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate);

(ix) POLYQUAD® as disclosed in EP-A-456,467; or

- (x) a polyaminoamide (PAMAM), for example a linear PAMAM or a PAMAM dendrimer such as a amino-terminated StarbustTM PAMAM dendrimer (Aldrich).
- B) Please twice amend the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 22 and ending at page 32, line 7 as follows:

Suitable modifier units of the polyallylamine (i) are, for example, of formula

P

(5),

nitre sens

wherein L is C_2 - C_6 -alkyl which is substituted by two or more same or different substituents selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C_2 - C_5 -alkanoyloxy and C_2 - C_5 -alkylamino-carbonyloxy.

ore lb

L may be linear C_3 - C_6 -alkyl, such as linear C_4 - C_5 -alkyl, or, more particularly, n-pentyl which is in each case substituted as defined above.

C) Please twice amend the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 16 and ending at page 33, line 7 as follows:

A particular embodiment relates to polyallyl amines comprising units of the above formula (5), wherein L is a radical of formula

(6),

due not

wherein g is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, preferably 3 or 4 and in particular 4, each R* is independently hydrogen or a radical $-C(O)-R_{29}$ or $-C(O)-NH-R_{29}$, and for R_{29} and R_{29} the above meanings and preferences apply. L is even more preferred a radical of the above formula (6) wherein g is 3 or 4, in particular 4, and each group $-OR^*$ independently is hydroxy or hydroxy which is partly or completely acetylated, in particular hydroxy. Particular preferred radicals L are 1,2,3,4,5-pentahydroxy-n-pentyl or 1,2,3,4,5-pentahydroxy-n-pentyl wherein the hydroxy groups are partly or completely acetylated.

D) Please twice amend the paragraph bridging page 33 and page 34 as follows:

Suitable modifier units of the polyvinylamine (iii) are, for example, of formula



u s

(5a),

wherein for L the above-given meanings and preferences apply.

A suitable polyvinylamine copolymer is, for example, a copolymer comprising vinylamine units and units derived from another hydrophilic comonomer, for example from acrylamide, N,N-dimethyl acrylamide, N-vinylpyrrolidone or the like.

E). Please amend the second paragraph on page 71, lines 11-22 as follows: